

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pole apparatus for use in the installation of a suspended ceiling comprising:

a telescoping body having an interior, an open end and a closed end, and defining an aperture that permits access into said interior;

a first connector mounted on said open end of said body, said first connector defining an axial bore in communication with said interior of said body and having a locking apparatus adapted to extend into said axial bore;

a second connector mounted on said closed end of said body, said second connector having a base and an arm extending outwardly from said base in axial alignment with said body, said arm being engagable by a rotary tool; ~~and~~

a tool having a mounting portion adapted to engage said first connector and being removably secured to said first connector by said locking apparatus; and

a fastener removably supported on said tool.

2. (Original) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first connector further comprises at least one alignment face. ?

Claims 3-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Amended) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first connector further comprises a hexagonal side wall.

Claims 8-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Added) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said locking apparatus comprises a locking screw.

12. (Previously Added) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said locking apparatus comprises a quick disconnect system. *ADMIT'D CLAIMED IN PAST*

13. (Currently Amended) The pole apparatus of claim 14 12, wherein said quick disconnect system comprises a ball lock. *Non*

14. (Currently Amended) The pole apparatus of claim 1 12, wherein said ~~locking~~ apparatus quick disconnect system comprises spring biased teeth. *NID*

15. (Currently Amended) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said ~~locking~~ apparatus quick disconnect system comprises a spring biased pin. *NID*

16. (Previously Added) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second connector further comprises a hexagonal surface.

17. (Currently Amended) A pole apparatus for use in the installation of a suspended ceiling comprising:

a telescoping body having an interior, an open end and a closed end;

a first connector mounted on said open end of said body, said first connector having a locking apparatus;

a second connector mounted on said closed end of said body, said second connector having a base and an arm extending outwardly from said base, said arm being engageable by a rotary tool; and

a tool having a mounting portion adapted to engage said first connector and being removably secured to said first connector by said locking apparatus; and

a fastener removably supported on said tool.

18. (New) A pole apparatus for use in the installation of a suspended ceiling comprising:

an elongated body having a first end and a second end;

a connector positioned on said first end of said body;

a tool removably secured to said connector, the tool having a body, the body having a first and a second channel defined therein, the channels extending perpendicular to each other.

19. (New) The pole apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a fastener that is removably supported by said channels of said tool.

20. (New) The pole apparatus of claim 19, wherein said fastener comprises a lag screw.

21. (New) The pole apparatus of claim 18, wherein said tool further comprises a retainer ring disposed around said body.

22. (New) The pole apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a second connector mounted on said second end of said body, said second connector having a base and an arm extending outwardly from said base in alignment with a longitudinal axis of said body, said arm being engageable by a rotary tool.

23. (New) The pole apparatus of claim 18, wherein said elongated body is a telescoping tubular body having an interior, an open and a closed end and defining an aperture that permits access into said interior.

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